



East Knox County Elementary School

January 2019



Kristi Woods
Principal

Jennifer Morrell
Assistant Principal

Cougars Care!

**We care about each other. *We always problem solve.*

**We read and respond. *We engage in learning.*

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Dear East Knox Families,

Welcome back and Happy New Year! We were so excited to see the students this week and get back to our important job of learning each day. Please make sure that you check out our “Upcoming Dates to Remember” section because we have lots of opportunities for families to learn and have fun with us. You are invited to join us for our Family Geography Night, our Family Valentine’s Dance, our PTO meetings, and our Second Grade and Third Grade Musical in March.

We are trying something new with the school newsletter this month. We are sending the newsletter out electronically: in Class Dojo, through School Messenger’s email, and putting it on our web site. Please let your child’s teacher know if you would prefer a PAPER copy of the newsletter this month and we will be happy to send one home. **Please give us feedback on whether you prefer paper or electronic copies through this link: [VOTE HERE](#).**

Coming up in February, we will have our spring semester parent conferences. Please be sure to schedule a conference with your teacher to celebrate your child’s learning. Thank you for being a school community where **Cougars Care** about each other!

Remember to Read 20 minutes every night!

Mrs. Woods and Mrs. Morrell



Top Left Photo: Kindergarten enjoying our NACHO Average Attendance Party; Top Right: Fifth Grade Chorus singing in December; Bottom Left: Kindergarten and First Grade Musical; Bottom Right: Clifford the Big Red Dog and his elf visit the East Knox Network News with Mrs. Woods and Taylor Roberts

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

January 10th: Second Nine Weeks
Report Cards go home

Tuesday, January 15th: PTO
Meeting in Library at 6 pm

January 16th: Family Geography Fun
Night **RSVPs due** to Homeroom
teachers

January 17th: “Cougars Around
the World” Family Geography
Fun Night 5:30 to 7:00 pm

January 18th: First Semester Awards
Assembly: **8 am** for PK to 2nd Grades; **9
am** for 3rd-5th Grades

Monday, January 21st: **MLK Jr.
Holiday; No school for students/staff**

February 6th: Family Valentine’s Dance
RSVPs due to Homeroom teachers

February 7th: Fourth Graders take the
NAEP Test & End of 4.5 Weeks

February 8th: Family Valentine’s
Dance from 5:30 to 7:00 pm

February 11th to 22nd: Second Semester
Parent Conferences

February 13th: Interim Report Cards go
home

Monday, February 18th: **Teacher In-
service Day; Student Holiday**

Tuesday, February 19th: PTO
Meeting in Library at 6 pm

March 12th: Second & Third Grade

“COUGARS AROUND THE WORLD” FAMILY GEOGRAPHY NIGHT ON 1/17



East Knox Families, let's travel the world and discover different music, art, food, games, and cultures! **Join us Thursday, January 17th anytime between 5:30-6:30 pm for “Cougars Around the World” Family Geography Night!** Win books, door prizes, sample foods, and much more! Learn about and experience different places and traditions located on every continent of the world. We will conclude at 7:00 pm. **Grab your passports, Cougars! Let's get traveling!** **PLEASE return your RSVPs by Wednesday, January 16th to your homeroom teacher.**

WINNERS OF THE GOLDEN SNEAKER AWARD

Each month, one class will earn “The Golden Sneaker” award in P.E. class. The award is given for the class that shows the best participation, preparation, attitude, cooperation, and effort. A new class will win each month. **Congratulations from Mrs. Shipman and Mrs. Majors to Mrs. Peterson's Kindergarten class for November 2018 and Mrs. Gore's First Grade class for earning the Golden Sneaker trophy for December 2018.**



November 2018: Mrs. Petersen's Class



December 2018: Mrs. Gore's Class

FAMILY FEEDBACK NEEDED FOR OUR SCHOOL COUNSELORS

East Knox Families, please do our counselors a huge favor to help with their feedback and planning by completing a short parent survey. Please go to the East Knox home page, to the “Quick Links” on the left side, choose “Click here to complete short parent survey”, and then “East Knox Parent Survey 2018-2019” or follow this link: **[East Knox Parent Survey 2018-2019](#)**. This should only take about five minutes to complete. Thank you so much for your time and input for our counselors!

As a reminder, families may visit the East Knox County Elementary School web site and go to “School Counseling” for more information about our program. **Families may also fill out an electronic referral for the School Counselors to meet with your child.** A Quick Link to the referral form is found on the left side of our web page and will remain there all year at: **[Parent Referral to School Counselors](#)**.

Thank you! Mrs. Quarles and Mrs. Owens

BEST CAFETERIA BEHAVIOR OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to the following homerooms that have won “Best Cafeteria Behavior” as a class for the week. **These classes receive 5 extra minutes of recess on Fridays as a token of appreciation from our staff for being safe, responsible, and respectful. Thank you to each one of these classes for being Cougars who CARE about being safe, respectful, and responsible at lunch.**

Grade Level	Pre-Kindergarten	Kindergarten	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth
11/26 to 11/30	Evatt	Chandler	Reece	Winegardner	Parrott	Mauldin	Hickman
12/3 to 12/7	S. Biggs	Brown	Burroughs	Baggett	M. Biggs	Linsley	Hickman
12/10 to 12/14	Evatt	Morrison	Gore	Helton	Parrott	Linsley	Whaley
12/17 to 12/21	S. Biggs	Petersen	Reece	Morris	Coffey	Mauldin	Whaley

CONGRATULATIONS TO EAST KNOX TEACHERS OF THE YEAR

East Knox wants to congratulate our two Teachers of the Year for 2019, **Mrs. Lori Burroughs, our First Grade Team Leader, and Mrs. Joanna Law, our Librarian.** They were selected by their peers for their exceptional dedication, knowledge, and skill in education among other outstanding qualities. We are proud to have them represent East Knox County Elementary as models of the excellence we strive for every day when working with your children.



WELCOME MS. THOMPSON TO EAST KNOX



East Knox Families, please help us welcome **Ms. Alison Thompson** to our school. Mrs. Thompson has her Master’s degree in Early Childhood Education. This is her third year in the classroom. Teaching is a second career for Ms. Thompson. Previously she was an Information Technology Project Manager. Last Semester, she served as a 1st grade teacher at Northshore Elementary School in an interim position. She will be joining our Kindergarten team this spring.

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR FAMILY VALENTINE’S DANCE



East Knox will be having our Family Valentine’s Dance on **Friday, February 8th from 5:30 to 7 pm.** We will have door prizes, dancing, food, and games. We look forward to celebrating with all our families. Mark your calendars and be looking for the RSVPs that will come home at the end of the month.

Gentle reminder that for Family Events, no student should be dropped off to attend alone.

ATTENDANCE INCENTIVES AT EAST KNOX



Our school goal is to have 95% of our students attend school EACH day. We are encouraging all students to set this same goal each nine-weeks period. **During the Second Nine Weeks, 336 students out of 453 total students had a 95% attendance rate (only missing 3 or fewer days). We served a BUNCH of nachos for having 95% Average attendance on the last day of December.** For the Third Nine Weeks, there are 47 school days and 95% attendance would mean missing only 2 days. Set a family goal to help us meet our goal by being at school 45 out of the 47 days. **We will have a reward party on Friday, March 15th for every student that meets this goal.** Students will be voting on their next attendance incentive: nacho party, ice cream party, or popcorn party.

Photo Above: Fifth Graders, Ms. Ginger, and Ms. Hickman enjoying nachos.

Make it a goal to be at our next attendance incentive party on March 15th by being at school 95% or 45/47 days of the Third Nine Weeks.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR EAST KNOX SPELLING BEE WINNERS



Our winners from left to right: Second Place – Justin Pilant, **First Place and represents our school at the District Spelling Bee – Taylor Roberts**, and a two-way tie for Third Place – Kayleigh Sanders and Kali Gentry

AT HOME READING GOAL

Read 20 minutes a night for 5 nights out of the week.

IMPORTANT MESSAGES FROM EAST KNOX PTO

- 1) Do you shop on Amazon? If so, you can donate a portion of your sales to East Knox PTO. Go to smile.amazon.com. Once you are logged in, go to “Accounts”, and “Lists” at the top of the screen. Under the “Your Account” column, go down to “Your Amazon Smile”. There you should be able to type in **East Knox County PTO** and choose this as your current charity. All proceeds will be used for our school. **Please note: you will have to repeat this process for EACH purchase.**
- 2) East Knox Winter Gear is on sale now. **Long sleeve t-shirts, sweatshirts, and hooded sweatshirts are available from PTO with a NEW option to pay by credit or debit card.** The Winter Gear order form is at the end of this newsletter. Show your East Knox Cougar Pride by purchasing Winter Gear while supplies last.
- 3) NEW! You can now link your Kroger card through the Kroger web site (not the app). Visit <https://www.kroger.com/> (or click on this link). Once you have logged into your Kroger account, scroll to the bottom of the page, click on “Community Rewards” link in column two. After clicking “I’m a Customer”, search for East Knox County Elementary School PTO by name or by code, RY891, and then click “Enroll”. This is an easy way to support your school. All monies are donated back to the school.
- 4) Please continue to send your **Box Tops** and **Coke Rewards** to your homeroom teacher.
- 5) Please join us for our school PTO meeting at 6 pm in the East Knox County Library on the **third Tuesdays** of the month. **Our next meeting is January 15th at 6 pm and we hope you can join us.**

2018-2019 PTO Board of Directors: Jennie Bounds, President; Alison Jones, Vice President; Lela Jackson, Second Vice President; Beth Dunn, Secretary; Amber Lindsey, Second Secretary; Gena Wilson, Treasure; Jenny Henderlight, Second Treasurer